

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic valve actuator comprising an actuator member ~~(11, 14)~~ movable under the effect of a resilient member ~~(12, 13)~~ and of at least one coil ~~(20)~~, and at least one permanent magnet ~~(22)~~ arranged to hold the actuator member ~~(11, 14)~~ in at least one of its extreme positions against the resilient member ~~(12, 13)~~ when the coil ~~(20)~~ is not powered, the coil ~~(20)~~ being associated with a core ~~(16)~~ comprising two portions ~~(17)~~ having respective first facets ~~(21)~~ in contact with the permanent magnet ~~(22)~~ and respective second facets ~~(23)~~ that present between them an airgap ~~(e)~~ of size that is ~~much~~ smaller than a thickness ~~(H)~~ of the permanent magnet, said airgap ~~(e)~~ forming an angle with the direction ~~(25)~~ of magnetization of the permanent magnet ~~(22)~~, wherein said permanent magnet is in contact with said first facets over ~~substantially~~ an entire surface of said first facets.
2. (Previously Presented) An electromagnetic actuator according to claim 1, wherein the airgap (e) forms a right angle with the direction (25) of magnetization of the permanent magnet (22).